

Appl. No. 09/651,140
Amdt. Dated 03/01/2004
Reply to Office Action of 09/29/2003

only a single layer. St. Regis Paper Co. did not address having to resize elements to fit into a form factor or a duplication of selective elements.

Applicant's invention fitting "four optical receptacles [] into a standard SC duplex Gigabit Interface Converter (GBIC) package" results in "a fiber optic module having four channels of parallel optical transmitting and/or receiving of data". [Applicant's claim 31, lines 4-5 and 12-14]. A mere duplication of the elements of Yingst does not result in a fiber optic module with four optical receptacles conforming to a form factor of a standard SC duplex Gigabit Interface Converter (GBIC) package.

Thus for the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Yingst does not make obvious Applicant's independent claims 31 and 34.

Claims 32-33 depend directly from independent claim 31. Claims 35-36 depend directly from independent claim 34.

Applicant believes that is has placed independent claims 31 and 34 in condition for allowance such that dependent claims 32-33 and 35-36 depending respectively therefrom with further limitations are also in condition for allowance.

Thus for the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the 35 USC 103(a) rejection of claims 31-36.

III. NEW CLAIMS.

Applicant has added new dependent claims 37-50.

New claims 37-39 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 19.

New claim 40 depends indirectly from independent claim 29.

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New claims 41-46 depend directly from independent claim 31.

New claims 47-50 depend directly from independent claim 34.

Applicant believes that it has placed independent claims 19, 29, 31, and 34 in condition for allowance such that claims 37-39, 40, 41-46, and 47-50 depending respectively therefrom with added limitations are also in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully submits that new dependent claims 37-50 are also in condition for allowance.

IV. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Applicant has amended claims 1-5, 7-14, 19, 22-29, and 31-36 by this response.

As previously discussed, claims 1, 2, 8, 11-12, 19, 27, 29, 31, and 34 were amended to clarify Applicant's claimed invention.

As previously discussed, claim 22 was amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the phrase "the sliding arm".

Applicant has also amended claims 1-5, 9-10, 13-14, 23-28, 32-33, and 35-36 correcting typographical and grammatical errors.

Claim 1 has been amended to correct "electro-magnetic" to -- electromagnetic --, deleting the hyphenation so that it is consistent with the usage of the phrase "electromagnetic interference shield" used previously in independent claim 1. Claim 1 has been further amended to add two instances of the word --first-- before "ground plane" and "surface" respectively to be consistent with the usage of the phrases "first ground plane" and "first surface" used previously in independent claim 1.